

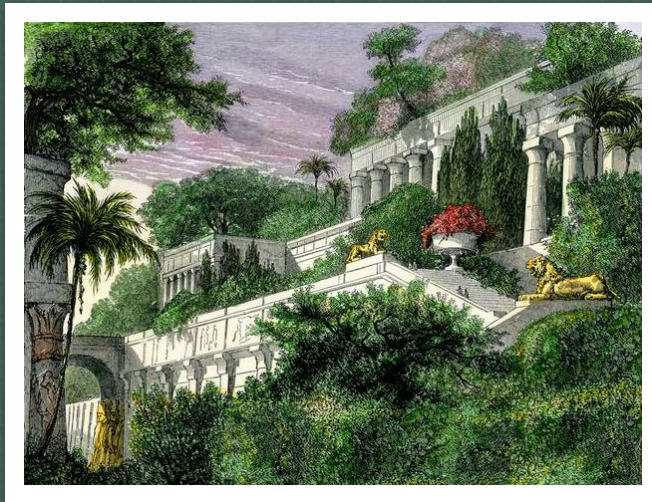


HOUSEPLANTS:

A History

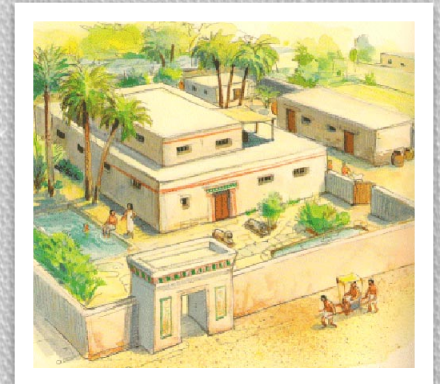
Houseplants & Humans

A Timeline



- 3,000 BCE Egyptian Homes

- potted herbs
- pergolas



- 1,000 BCE Chinese Palace Gardens

- penjing trees

- 600-650 BCE Hanging Gardens of Babylon

- legend and archaeological evidence
- “must see” of 3rd century BCE by ancient Greek tour guides

- 1st century CE Roman Gardens & Cultivars

- terra cotta pots, window boxes
- roof & atria gardens
- The “hot house”
- cut flower trade



The Roses of Heliogabalus

by Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema, 1888



Houseplants & Humans



- 600-700 CE Islamic Gardening Tradition
 - potted herbs
 - "trained" fruit and nut trees
 - bulbs, including narcissus and lillies
- 1,100-1,400 CE Medieval Gardens
 - medicinal and herbal traditions
 - development of turf
 - raised beds
- Renaissance Gardens
- 16th-17th European Exploration
 - tulips and marigolds, potatoes and tomatoes
 - Orangeries
- 19th century: The Victorians
 - Changes in architecture
 - Modern house plants
 - Mail order
 - Botany as hobby
 - Terrariums
 - *Campanula pyramidalis*



Houseplant Facts

- Most popular: begonia, spider plant, ficus, peace lily, philodendron, palms, ferns, African violets
- Connection with air quality & restorative atmosphere.
- Hardy varieties, desert and tropical origins.
- Care: consistency and moderation
- Common myths: Ash and beer, talking and stroking, music and aspirin.

